

#### § 2551.46

(B) The limits of applicable state financial responsibility law, or in its absence, levels of protection to be determined by the Corporation for each person, each accident, and for property damage.

(ii) Senior Companions who drive their personal vehicles to or on assignments or project-related activities must maintain personal automobile liability insurance equal to or exceeding the levels established by the Corporation.

(c) *Transportation.* Senior Companions shall receive assistance with the cost of transportation to and from volunteer assignments and official project activities, including orientation, training, and recognition events.

(d) *Physical examination.* Senior Companions are provided a physical examination prior to assignment and annually thereafter to ensure that they will be able to provide supportive service without injury to themselves or the clients served.

(e) *Meals and recognition.* Senior Companions shall be provided the following within limits of the project's available resources:

- (1) Assistance with the cost of meals taken while on assignment; and
- (2) Recognition for their service.

#### **§ 2551.46 May the cost reimbursements of a Senior Companion be subject to any tax or charge, be treated as wages or compensation, or affect eligibility to receive assistance from other programs?**

No. Senior Companion's cost reimbursements are not subject to any tax or charge or treated as wages or compensation for the purposes of unemployment insurance, worker's compensation, temporary disability, retirement, public assistance, or similar benefit payments or minimum wage laws. Cost reimbursements are not subject to garnishment and do not reduce or eliminate the level of, or eligibility for, assistance or services a Senior Companion may be receiving under any governmental program.

#### 45 CFR Ch. XXV (10–1–00 Edition)

### **Subpart E—Senior Companion Terms of Service**

#### **§ 2551.51 What are the terms of service of a Senior Companion?**

A Senior Companion shall serve a minimum of nine months a year for an average of 20 hours of service a week. A Senior Companion shall not serve more than 1044 hours per year.

#### **§ 2551.52 What factors are considered in determining a Senior Companion's service schedule?**

(a) Travel time between the Senior Companion's home and place of assignment is not part of the service schedule and is not stipended.

(b) Travel time between individual assignments is a part of the service schedule and is stipended.

(c) Meal time may be part of the service schedule and is stipended only if it is specified in the goal statement as part of the service activity.

#### **§ 2551.53 Under what circumstances may a Senior Companion's service be terminated?**

(a) A sponsor may remove a Senior Companion from service for cause. Grounds for removal include but are not limited to: extensive and unauthorized absences; misconduct; inability to perform assignments; and failure to accept supervision. A Senior Companion may also be removed from service for having income in excess of the eligibility level.

(b) The sponsor shall establish appropriate policies on service termination as well as procedures for appeal from such adverse action.

### **Subpart F—Responsibilities of a Volunteer Station**

#### **§ 2551.61 When may a sponsor serve as a volunteer station?**

(a) A sponsor may function as a volunteer station if it is:

- (1) A State organization administering a statewide Senior Companion project where the volunteer station is part of the State organization; or